

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 /072 W  
-----085846 222019Z /66

R 211649Z OCT 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2171  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
USMISSION USNATO  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 07928

BRUSSELS AND PARIS ALSO FOR USEEC AND OECD

E.O. 11652 GDS  
TAGS: PINT, ELAB, SP  
SUBJECT: UCD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS THE PRESS

REF: MADRID 6858

1. THE UCD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (THOSE LISTED REFTEL  
PLUS RECENTLY APPOINTED INFORMATION SECRETARY GUILLERMO  
MEDINA, A RESPECTED JOURNALIST) WAS FORMALLY PRESENTED  
OCTOBER 19, IN AN EVIDENT EFFORT TO SHOW CONTINUING  
PROGRESS IN THE PARTY'S ORGANIZATIONAL PUSH. THE  
VARIOUS COMMITTEE MEMBERS TOOK THE OCCASION TO MAKE A  
FEW SUBSTANTIVE POINTS:

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-- (DESPITE THE RELATIVELY HEAVY SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC  
REPRESENTATION ON THE COMMITTEE) THE PARTY IS NOT  
CENTER-LEFT, BUT SIMPLY CENTER, LIKE THE MAJORITY OF  
ITS VOTERS.

-- THE PARTY UNDERSTANDS THAT CERTAIN ACTIONS TAKEN

BY THE GOVT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE NATION WILL BE  
ELECTORALLY DAMAGING TO THE PARTY ITSELF.

-- THE GOVT IS CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN THE CONSOLIDATION  
OF DEMOCRACY, AND FOR THAT REASON, ITS POLICY DOESN'T  
CORRESPOND EXACTLY TO THAT OF THE PLATFORM OF THE UCD.

-- THE UCD CONTINUES TO REJECT THE IDEA OF A GOVT  
OF CONCENTRATION; FOR ONE THING, SUCH A FORMULA WOULD  
PREVENT THE NECESSARY CONSOLIDATION OF AN OPPOSITION.

-- THE UCD WILL IN NO WAY SUPPORT THE CREATION OF  
ITS OWN TRADE UNION; THERE ARE DOUBTLESS MANY WORKERS  
WHO DO NOT FEEL REPRESENTED BY THE EXISTING (LEFT-ORIENTED)  
UNIONS, BUT ANY EFFORT TO CREATE A NEW ONE WILL HAVE TO  
COME FROM THE WORKERS THEMSELVES.

2. COMMENT: THIS SHOW OF ACTIVITY AND UNITY, AND OF  
CAREFUL HEWING TO THE GOVT LINE, MAY BE ENCOURAGING TO  
THE CONVERTED, BUT WILL DO LITTLE TO CONVINCE THE SKEPTI-  
CAL. THE PRESS HAS ALREADY REPORTED VARYING THEORIES OVER  
THE POSSIBLE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASSERTION OF UNADORNED  
CENTRISM: THERE IS, OF COURSE, NONE BEYOND THE UCD'S  
CONTINUING DESIRE TO MAKE ITS APPEAL AS BROAD AS POSSIBLE.

3. BUSINESS-INDUSTRIAL INTERESTS HAVE, UNDERSTANDABLY,  
BEEN UNHAPPY WITH WHAT THEY PERCEIVE TO BE A BLURRING OF  
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POLITICAL IDENTITIES, ESPECIALLY ON THE PART OF SUAREZ'  
ALLIANCE OF THE CENTER (UCD). THEY HAVE TAKEN THE LINE  
THAT MANY VOTERS FEEL "BETRAYED" BY ALLEGED UCD ATTEMPTS  
TO GIVE ITSELF A LEFT-CENTER COLORATION. CEOE (EMPLOYERS  
CONFEDERATION) PRESIDENT CARLOS FERRER COMMENTED TO THE  
AMBASSADOR OCTOBER 14 THAT THE UCD SHOULD "STOP FLIRTING  
WITH LEFT-CENTER PRINCIPLES" AND COME OUT CLEARLY AS A  
CENTER/CENTER-RIGHT PARTY IN THE MOLD OF TRADITIONAL  
WESTERN EUROPEAN CENTER/CONSERVATIVE PARTIES. WITH RESPECT  
TO UCD DENIALS THAT IT INTENDS TO CREATE ITS OWN TRADE  
UNION, RUMORS PERSIST THAT THE GOVT IN FACT HAS A  
CONTINUING INTEREST IN PROMOTING THE FORMATION OF A  
"NON-MARXIST OPTION", CENTER-ORIENTED UNION.EATON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS CONFERENCES, COMMITTEES, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** UCD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS THE PRESS  
**TAGS:** PINT, ELAB, SOPN, SP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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